

State Hist. Co.

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PROHIBITION COLUMN.

Edited by L. K. McIntyre, and others.

SECOND DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

When a long train of usurpations and abuses, pursuing invariably the same objects, evinces a design to reduce mankind under an absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

There is an enemy among us, fellow citizens, the history of whose reign is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over mankind. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused to submit to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has kept among us in times of peace staggering armies, with the consent of our legislatures.

He has subjected many of us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution and unacknowledged by the law of nature or of God.

He has deprived our citizens, in many cases, of trial by sober juries.

He has transported many of our citizens beyond the bounds of reason into the seas of dissipation and ruin.

He has imposed taxes upon us for the support of pauperism and crimes of his own engineering.

He has established and sustained depots for the manufacture and sale of the most destructive instruments, to complete the work of death, desolation and misery, in the most barbarous ages, and utterly insufferable among a civilized people.

He has, in some instances, stimulated our citizens to fight against their dearest friends and brethren, and become the executioners of their own wives and children.

He has occasioned more than three-fourths of the crime, and more than one-half of the insanity in the community, and thereby filled our prisons, our almshouses, and lunatic asylums, and erected the gibbet before our eyes.

He has influenced our elections by bribery and corruption.

He has occasioned insubordination and desertion in our army.

He has deceived and plundered the defenseless Indians on our western borders, and destroyed them by thousands and tens of thousands, and at times stimulated them to acts of the most barbarous cruelty against the inhabitants of our frontier settlements.

He has destroyed multitudes of our seafaring men, and occasioned many shipwrecks every year.

He has occasioned the blowing-up of many steamboats on our rivers, and consequent destruction of much property and many valuable lives.

He has destroyed the lives of tens of thousands of our citizens annually in the most merciless manner.

He has turned aside hundreds of thousands more of our free and independent citizens to idleness and vice, infused into them the spirits of demons and degraded them below the level of brutes.

He has made thousands of widows and orphans, and destroyed the fondest hopes and blasted the brightest prospects.

He has wasted and destroyed the properties of our citizens to the amount of more than \$600,000,000 annually.

He has imported plague and pestilence and diffused and perpetuated its influence among us.

He has introduced among us hereditary diseases both physical and mental thereby tending to deteriorate the human race.

He has converted many of our public houses, where quietness, neatness and good order should be found, into the most boisterous and filthy dens of dissipation.

He encourages men to spend their time and money at public houses while their families are starving to death at home.

He converts annually many millions of bushels of grain, the staff of life, into mortal poison, while thousands of our citizens and their children are suffering for want of bread.

He has misrepresented the character of our people and the institutions of our country in foreign nations, and in isles of the sea.

He has entered our courts of justice and legislative halls and disturbed

their counsel, and even the sanctuaries of our religion and the ministers at the altar have not altogether escaped his prevailing and blighting influence.

He has encouraged Sabbath-breaking profanity, impurity, thieving, house-burning, robbery, gambling, slander and fighting, and has ruined the morals of every community over which he has obtained an influence.

He vitiates the taste and demoralizes the habits of our unsuspecting children, thus preparing them for an easy prey hereafter.

He has brought all our free institutions, the perpetuity of our Government, and our civil and religious liberty itself into imminent danger.

He has suborned many of our unsuspecting citizens, who are professedly opposed to his influence, to unite with and sustain him, and spread his curses far and wide throughout the country.

While in the very act of ministering to his victims his potions of deadly poison, he has hypocritically professed to offer the most grateful beverage. He has promised health, and life, and joy, while there was death in the bowl.

He has seared the consciences and blunted the moral perceptions of men, so as to destroy the efficacy of the Gospel and the means which God has appointed for their spiritual and eternal good.

He has dishonored God, in whose image and for whose glory man was created, by sinking his image below the level of the irrational brutes.

He has arrayed himself against all patriotic humane and benevolent efforts.

He expelleth reason, drowneeth memory, defaceeth beauty, diminisheth strength, inflameeth the blood, cansteth internal, external and incurable wounds is a witch to the senses, a devil to the soul, a thief to the purse, a beggar's companion, the wife's woe the children's sorrow, the picture of a beast, the madman's prompter, and the Pandora to the human family.

We will now call the world to witness if we have been wanting in attention and forbearance to the traitor, while he has been extending his unwarrantable jurisdiction over us.

Has not our Government afforded him the most liberal protection?

Has he not sailed under our flag on every ocean and in every sea?

Have not our magistrates given him the freedom of our cities, and even licensed him to do whatsoever he listed?

Has he not been openly received and lauded in our public assemblies? Have not our lawyers and orators and statesmen, the most prominent men of our free Republic, been obsequious to his call and subservient to his interests?

Have not our physicians administered their potions under his influence, and recommended him to their patients as a gloom-dispeller and a health-restorer?

Have not the ministers of our religion and the deacons and elders of our churches exercised all due moderation towards him? Have not our farmers cheerfully divided with him their substance? Have not our merchants paid dear for his commodities, which proved worse than useless?

Have not our mechanics given him a seat on their work-benches? Have not our old men bowed down before him, and our young men done him reverence? Have not our maidens smiled upon him, and our children been taught to love him? Has he not been received into our domestic circles, and to a seat at our tables even, while wives and children have been exiled to give him place? Have not all classes, rich and poor, high and low, bond and free, been carried away by his incantations, and stood up for him as a good creature of God? And have not our citizens most generously sacrificed for him their fortunes, their families, their innocence, their honor and their lives?

But for all this hospitality and kindness, what have they received from the ingrate but the scorpion's sting and the serpent's bite! but woes, and sorrows and contentions, and babblings, and wounds without cause, and redness of eyes! Evil, and only evil, has been returned for good. And, now we declare it as our belief that the history of the human race affords no parallel example of slavery and degradation inflicted on a willing and unsuspecting people; that no tyrant ever subjected so many human beings to such unmitigated grievances—to such mighty woes. Millions of victims have fallen by his oppressions—millions more are enthralled. Year after year has passed

away, but the cry of remonstrance, though often raised, has seldom been heard or heeded. The malignant tyrant, steady to his purpose, has rioted in the carnage, and, with infernal exultation, mocked at the groans of the dying, and sported with widows' sighs and orphans' tears. Every domestic and social bond has been disregarded. The peace and respectability of families have been destroyed. Promising and beloved sons have been torn from their parents, husbands from their wives and families, and the tender mother even from the helpless and dependent offspring, no tie in nature too tender to be sundered, no chord too strong to be broken, by this unfeeling tyrant.

And we now ask the suffrages of the whole world if a denunciation of such unmingled oppression and tyranny should be submitted to any longer by an enlightened, a generous, and otherwise free people?

We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity which declares our separation from alcohol, and hold him hereafter an implacable enemy in war, and no friend in peace.

We, therefore, the representatives of the views of all true temperance men and women in the United States of America and throughout the world, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the earth for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of all true temperance men and women, solemnly publish and declare that the whole human race ought by right to be free and independent of, and absolved from all allegiance to, alcohol, and that all connection, of whatever kind, between them and him, ought to be totally dissolved; and that while they have no writ, as rational and accountable beings, to contract alliances, establish commerce, or conclude a peace with him, they have full power to wage against him a war of extermination, and to do all other acts and things which may lawfully be done, to annihilate from under the whole heaven, and for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection and guidance of a Divine Providence, we, temperance men, mutually pledge to each other, our fortunes, and sacred honor.

NO PLACE FOR A PROHIBITIONIST.

The following from the Chicago Times, shows the practice of republicans at their recent Chicago convention.

While the G. O. P. may be a moral party in theory, its practice, as shown us the following, is decidedly the opposite:

"The prohibitionist is commanded to take his place anew in the grand old party that once again the country may be saved. He comes up to Chicago, perchance, to see for himself what prospect exists that the party which proclaims him a traitor for forming an opinion of his own shall become worthy of his support. He arrives on Sunday. Chicago has a thick-and-thin republican administration. The mayor of Chicago will sit in the convention as a candidate-maker. There is a law in Illinois requiring the closing of dram-shops on Sunday. To his dismay the visiting prohibitionist finds every one of Chicago's four thousand drinking-places wide open, the law to the contrary notwithstanding. He will observe that the best patronized dram-shops are located in taverns, and around these drinking places cluster badge-bedecked gentlemen whose devotions upon this Sabbath afternoon are continuous and hearty. The cut in the Tribune fails to picture the scene adequately.

The visiting prohibitionist, intent upon discovering what the party of great moral ideas proposes to do in behalf of temperance, arrived simultaneously with the Grant club of Albany. He may learn from the Tribune that these exponents of morality "left in the train an unlimited number of empty whisky flasks." They marched through the streets of Chicago upon the Lord's day to the enlivening strains of "Drink, Boys, Drink, Drive Away Sorrow," and they told how they had painted the region from the Hudson to Lake Michigan a glorious red.

Shaking the dust of Chicago from his feet, the prohibitionist will conclude that the grand old party may be chuck-full of moral ideas, but that the moral idea of the prohibitionist is not of the number. As for himself, he had rather be a door-keeper in the house of his God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. This is surely no place for the prohibitionist. Even if he call at the headquarters of the anti-saloon republicans he will find that the solitary secretary in charge of the empty apartment has gone out to refresh himself with a gin fizz.

The prohibitionist who comes up to Chicago at this juncture will return to the bosom of his family a sadder and a wiser man. Fisk and cold water for him.